

Ottawa City Council Meeting

Jim Watson

- Our downtown area is under siege
- We must continue to work with provincial, municipal and federal partners to take back the streets of Ottawa from the hooliganism that has happened over the past 10 days
- This was initially a protest – but it's turned in to an occupation of our neighbourhoods, and not against vaccine mandates implemented by province and federal government
- We've seen nazi flags, confederate flags in our city
- Occupations having damaging and long term impact on residents
- Honking constitutes psychological warfare
- Staff members of businesses have been harassed
- Cancer patients have missed appointments
- At 5am the other night – there was an attempted arson that could have been very bad
- To the truckers – the lives of innocent people are at stake, right now, right here. This occupation must cease right away
- This protest is not hurting the province or the government of Canada – you're harming the people of Ottawa
- You've made your point – time to leave
- Thank you to all of the police officers for working so hard, and for having restraint against protestors looking for a fight
- Very few of us would volunteer to do what our brave men and women in uniform do
- Progress has been made to reclaim parts of the city – including fencing off confederation park, seizing gasoline. Anyone caught assisting in the red zone will be charged
- We're grateful for RCMP, OPP – but we need more
- Given the scope and scale of trucks downtown (400-500 remaining) and the potential for violence
- Fully support the ask from Chief Sloly to the OPP and RCMP for more support – we need a municipal, provincial and federal joint
- I will write to PM Trudeau and Premier Ford later today to relay Chief Sloly's message that we need the OPP and RCMP to help us end this occupation. We need them to help us increase our law enforcement capacity significantly and quickly.
- Request to increase noise, idling by law fines – chief justice of Ontario supportive of this request

Chief Sloly

- Ongoing unlawful demonstrations causing all Ottawa residents much distress, as they are on me and my members
- It's unacceptable and unsustainable
- On Friday, we announced a surge and contain strategy
- We're doing everything we can to end this safely, lawfully, and quickly
- We're learning day by day on our experiences, and making arrests
- Doing everything we can to provide resources quickly and effectively

- **Stopping go fund me was good – but there are other initiatives popping up, and we need all levels of government to step in and stop this – it’s a challenge**
- There have been major efforts by protestors to re-secure Coventry – we’re finding ways to fence that in, and not let that happen
- 3000 trucks entered the city limits the previous weekend, with 10-15000 demonstrators
- This weekend, approximately 1000 trucks and 3000 people
- We’re trying to end it all
- OPS working 24/7 to end this demonstration
- We have turned up the heat, and will deploy all available officers – all of our officers are back on duty
- **This is not sustainable – we have from the RCMP received 257 officers, who have also had to work in their role to protect parliament, Ministers, Rideau Hall and the Prime Minister’s residence**
- **There are only 20-50 RCMP officers to deploy through our incident command center – this is not enough, and we will request more support**
- **From the province, we’ve received 100 OPP officers per day. It is not enough, and we need more.**
- Today we received a letter from Public Safety and the Parliamentary Precinct Security – they are helping us with putting barriers in place in the downtown core
- No one should misunderstand what I’m saying – we are doing everything we can do end this unsafe and unlawful demonstration
- **We’re engaging all three levels of government to provide whatever supports they can to this city and this service**
- Diane Deans asked me to provide a list of what we need – we’ve shared that letter to be shared with Public Safety Canada and the Solicitor General
- Resources we’re requesting:
 - **1. City of Ottawa** – need to increase by-law fines.
 - We need a whole of city response
 - Operations remain strained – officers haven’t had a day off in 12 days in the coldest winter we’ve had in 10 years
 - **Asking for 1800 additional police and civilian personnel within the incident command umbrella**
 - Policing not the only part
 - Need insurance companies, BIAs, trucking companies to restrict support to truckers
 - Need laws, regulations and orders from provincial, federal government

Head of By-Law

- City services being coordinated to support police, and to mitigate impacts on residents

Councillor Dudas – Motion for Provincial and Federal Support

- Ottawa Police resources have been doing what they can to keep people safe – but they are strapped
- Occupiers seek to hold Ottawa hostage, with no intention of leaving
- The siege ending will require more than just the resources of the OPS

- **The mayor needs to call on the government of Ontario and Canada to provide all financial and logistical support available to end the occupation of our city**

Councillor Dudas – Motion to Support Ottawa Businesses

- The mayor needs to make a formal request to both the provincial and federal governments for funding supports specifically focused on supporting Ottawa businesses impacted by the occupation

Councillor Dudas – Motion to Support Ottawa Businesses

- The mayor make a formal request to the provincial and federal governments for funding specifically focused on supporting community social support agencies impacted by the occupation

Council King – Motion to charge those responsible for increased policing costs

- The mayor make a request to the Solicitor General and Premier for Ontario to charge those people who have caused increased police costs to pay for it

Councillor Leiper – Motion

- Unrelated to protests – city business and legislative guidelines

Councillor Minard – Motion on Idling

- Idling motion against trucks

Councilor McKenney – Motion to the RCMP and Federal Government

- **The city of Ottawa needs to formally petition the Government of Canada to assume responsibility for Public Safety and security within the Parliamentary Precinct and to committee to an immediate and significant increased level of support (officers, resources, materials and equipment) to the Ottawa Police, as the people force of jurisdiction, in the adjoining areas, subject to the resolution of any jurisdictional discussions between the Ottawa Police Service and the RCMP**

Councilor Fleury – Motion on increased fines

Councilor Venard –

Councilor – Review of What Happened

- Ask for federal support as it was a demonstration national in nature

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Councillor

- When can we expect to have 1800+ resources from the province and federal government?

Questions for Chief Sloly

- Depends on the response from province and feds

- We've have a lot of support from different polciing regions, quite quickly

Councilor

- We're still seeing fuel get in to the red zone on the ground

Deputy Chief

- We have every intention to have these people investigate those bringing in supplies to the occupation area – as we have an influx of support we will be able to increase enforcement efforts
- We know this needs to be expanded
- There are protestors bringing in water in diesel jugs in an effort to frustrate police
- Officer safety is of the utmost importance
- With our ask to the province and federal governments, we can better enforce this

Councillor

- How long will it take for the 1800 people to support?

Chief Sloly

- It depends on what we get, from where, and from which jurisdiction
- Some of what we're asking for is highly skilled individuals who may come for only a couple of days
- We may not get 1800 – but we will deploy whatever we get